

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. EGYPT COULD STILL AGREE ON UNEF

THE US MISSION TO THE UN LEARNED THAT EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR MEGUID, IN DELIVERING PRESIDENT SADAT'S LETTER TO WALDHEIM ON THE UNEF, EMPHASIZED EGYPT'S VIEW THAT THE ISRAELIS WERE USING THE UNEF AS A COVER FOR PROCRASTINATION. MEGUID STRESSED THAT EGYPT IS NOT OPPOSED TO UNEF AND WOULD GO ALONG WITH ITS EXTENSION IF THE SECURITY COUNCIL COULD ARRANGE FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL.

USUN THINKS THAT WALDHEIM MIGHT ADVANCE FORMAL DISCUSSION FROM THE ORIGINAL JULY 21 DATE TO ALLOW MORE TIME FOR SC ACTION BEFORE THE PRESENT MANDATE EXPIRES JULY 23. (CONFIDENTIAL) USUN 3323, 3324, 7/16.

2. ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS CALL FOR EXPULSION OF ISRAEL

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THE ISLAMIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING IN JIDDA RESOLVED

ON JULY 15 TO WORK IN COOPERATION WITH THE OTHER THIRD WORLD AND NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES TO DEPRIVE ISRAEL OF UN MEMBERSHIP. JORDANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER RIFAI HAD TOLD

THE AMBASSADOR ON THE 14TH THAT THERE IS A TACIT UNDERSTANDING--WHICH MAY NOT HOLD--THAT THE PUSH FOR SUSPENSION WILL FOLLOW THIS YEAR'S UNGA, GIVING ISRAEL A ONE YEAR GRACE PERIOD TO COMPLY WITH PREVIOUS UN RESOLUTIONS. (CONFIDENTIAL) AMMAN 4775, 7/15.

3. PANAMA CANAL: PRESSURE ABATES BUT PROBLEM CONTINUES

EMBASSY PANAMA REPORTS THAT AS A RESULT OF HIS SESSIONS WITH STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES, THE PRESSURES ON TORRIJOS HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT RELIEVED. THE EMBASSY ALSO OBSERVES THAT:

--CONTRARY TO ITS INITIAL IMPRESSION THAT THE STUDENTS HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN DETAILED INFORMATION ON US AND PANAMANIAN NEGOTIATING POSITIONS, THE STUDENT COMMUNIQUE OF JULY 14 INDICATES THAT DETAILS WERE IN FACT REVEALED.

--THE GOP'S PUBLIC STANCE IS THAT THE US HAS A COMMITMENT TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS, MOST RECENTLY REAFFIRMED BY SECRETARY KISSINGER, AND THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL GO ON.

EMBASSY COMMENT: ALTHOUGH TORRIJOS HAS SUCCESSFULLY GOTTEN OVER THE ACUTE PHASE OF THIS CRISIS PROVOKED BY THE SNYDER AMENDMENT, THE LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT OF THE SLOW OR STALLED NEGOTIATIONS REMAINS HIS MAJOR CONCERN. CONCURRENTLY WITH THEIR PUBLIC EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN CALM, THE GOP LEADERSHIP IS HOLDING A SERIES OF SECRET MEETINGS TO DETERMINE THEIR FUTURE COURSE OF ACTION IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) PANAMA 4229, 7/15.

4. LUANDA: SHOOTING DIES DOWN

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MPLA TROOPS HAVE REASSERTED CONTROL OVER LUANDA AND ARE ATTACKING THE REMAINING FNLA GARRISONS NORTH OF TOWN:

--SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF FNLA TROOPS HAVE SURRENDERED THEIR WEAPONS TO THE PORTUGUESE AND EITHER SOUGHT PROTECTION OR FLED.

--FOREIGN MINISTER ANTUNES IS ON THE SCENE AND

ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE CONVERSATIONS AMONG THE
THREE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, BUT KEY FNLA LEADERS
HAVE FLED THE CITY.

CONSULATE LUANDA REPORTS THE ATTITUDE OF MOST LUANDESE,
THE GREAT MAJORITY OF WHOM ARE PRO-MPLA, IS ONE OF
RELIEF THAT THE LATEST CATAclysm IS OVER AND THAT THE
FNLA NO LONGER REPRESENTS A THREAT TO THE PEACE OF
THE CITY. (CONFIDENTIAL) LUANDA 912, 7/15. INGERSOLL

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